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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/687,231
Applicant : James T. Beals et al.
Filed : October 16, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1725
Examiner : Kuang Y. Lin

Confirmation No. 8054

Docket No. : EH-10610(03-544)
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1)

Dear Sir:

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement being submitted concurrently herewith was first cited in a search report from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

James T. Beals et al.

By

Barry L. Kelmachter
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Date: April 5, 2005

I, Nicole Motzer, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on April 5, 2005.



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance Applicants' continued duty of disclosure, the following documents are brought to the Examiner's attention:

European Patent Document No. 0 084 234 A1
European Patent Document No. 1 306 147 A1
European Patent Document No. 1 358 954 A1

A copy of the aforementioned documents are enclosed along with a listing on Form PTO-1449.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a search report issued on February 16, 2005 in a corresponding European application.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

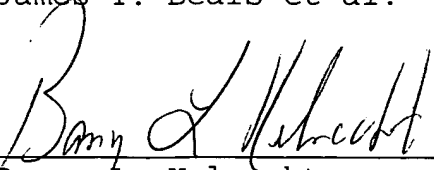
No fee is believed to be due as a result of this submission. Should the Director determine that a fee is due, he

is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No.
21-0279.

Respectfully submitted,

James T. Beals et al.

By


Barry L. Kelmächter
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